

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Acting Director of Sunday School Course of Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.)

LESSON FOR JUNE 13

BLESSEDNESS OF FORGIVENESS.

LESSON TEXT—Psalm 32.
GOLDEN TEXT—Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered—Psalm 32:1.

This psalm is believed to have grown out of David's experience with Nathan (see Rom. 4:6-8). It is the second of the seven so-called "penitential psalms" (6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, 143). While it is sad, it is at the same time one of the most joyful of all psalms. It is the record of bitter sorrow and also of heartfelt praise, and is as vital in its message today as the day it was given to the world.

1. The State or Condition of Happiness. (1) What is happiness? vv. 1, 2. The blessed or happy man is the one whose sin is covered. God only can forgive sin and has plainly set before us his agency, viz., the shed blood. David as king enjoyed the pleasures of life, but he also knew the result of hidden sin, of sins covered. The joy of forgiveness is offered to all who accept God's gift of justification (Acts 10:43). The psalmist seems to multiply words. "Transgression" means rebellion; "sin" to miss the mark (Rom. 3:23); "iniquity" to be crooked. When men try to cover sin we are expressly told the result (Prov. 28:13), but God literally takes away when he forgives and "covers" sin (John 1:29; Ps. 103:12; 85:2). Neither man or devil can uncover what he has covered. (2) Who is unhappy? vv. 3, 4. Contrasted with the state or condition of happiness granted to the forgiven sinner is presented that of those unforgiven. David kept silence without only to have a raging tempest within—lips silent, bones "roaring." During the days of David's silence following his sinful act he was guilty of increased acts of sin and cruelty (2 Sam. 12:31). The origin of the word Selah is not known. It probably indicated a musical interlude and in this psalm most appropriately and dramatically appears. (3) How we may be happy, vv. 5, 6. All sin is uncovered to God. His all-seeing eye can penetrate man's futile endeavors to hide his transgressions. The first step to forgiveness and to happiness is confession of guilt. God's heavy hand wrought saving faith in David and such faith has as its first condition confession, "I acknowledged my sin." Such confession is full and frank. Nothing is held back nor has it any element of hypocrisy, and it always secures results (1 John 1:9; Luke 15:20-23).

The godly man, the man who is the recipient of God's grace thus bestowed, prays in a time "when thou mayest be found," or (see margin) "in the time of finding out sin" (v. 6 R. V.). The prophet tells us that there is a time when we may not find God (Isa. 55:6) and Paul tells us when he may be found (II Cor. 6:2).

II. How to Continue in the State of Being Happy. (1) Our security (v. 7). When men forgive they do not "cover." What God hides he forgets (Isa. 38:17; Micah 7:19). Our security, our "hiding place" is Jehovah. Our preserver is Jehovah (Ps. 91:31; Isa. 32:1, 2). Jehovah preserves from trouble those whom he forgives (Ps. 34:19). Such men have a serenity, a "peace" even the "peace of God" which the sinner can never have (Isa. 26:3; Rom. 5:1; Phil. 4:7). (2) Our instructor (vv. 8, 9). (a) Positively—we have one who not only forgives and blots out the past but one who has promised to "instruct," to "teach" and to "guide." Nearly all believe that the introduction of the personal pronouns in verse 8 indicate that God is speaking in response to David's appeal recorded in verse 6. Jehovah guides with his "eye upon" us (v. 8 R. V.). He instructs us by his spirit through his Word (Ps. 119:105; John 16:13). (b) Negatively—Some must needs be directed by "bit and bridle." Some have to learn through bitter experience. We have our choice. Those who will not listen to instruction are compared to the horse and the mule who "have no understanding." Even so they are more useful than those who wildly run after sin. Only thus can some "come near" (v. 9 R. V.) though that is better than not to be brought near at all. (3) Our faith (v. 9). What kind of a life will God's forgiven children live? What is one of the foremost characteristics of a happy life? Here is the answer, "He that trusteth in the Lord." This is the conclusion of the whole matter.

Our only joy is in the Lord "who hath done marvelous things whereof we are glad."

The Education of the Will. "Know Thyself" is an important precept, but "Govern Thyself" is not less important. Parents should never speak of "breaking a child's will." They might just as wisely speak of breaking its back-bone. The aim must be to educate the will, not to break it. Great is the peril of the boy who cannot say "No." Such a boy is mere driftwood on the stream of life. Nothing truly great is achieved in life without a resolute will. It is the executive power of the soul. Nothing is more likely to lead to disaster than a feeble power of self-control, a weak yielding to the solicitations of the moment.

DRY FARM SEED ESSENTIALS

Great Many Failures May Be Attributed to Overseeding—Much Care Must Be Exercised.

One of the most important problems associated with dry farming is the determination of the rate of seeding per acre. A great many failures in dry farming may be attributed to overseeding.

The one limiting factor of crop production on dry lands is moisture, and it is largely because of its deficiency that care must be exercised in the rate of planting. Each plant in the soil takes out large quantities of water, which are evaporated into the air through the leaves, consequently when a thick stand is obtained large quantities of water are drawn from the soil.

A thick, luxuriant stand in the spring or early summer is no indication of a good harvest, as the probabilities are that such a heavy stand will deplete the soil of moisture and prevent complete maturity of the crop, while a thin stand would be able to withstand the dry periods and yield fairly well when harvested.

Thin planting does not of necessity mean a thin stand. Whenever the moisture conditions are favorable the plants will stool or branch out and make a stand that will warrant a satisfactory yield and at the same time be heavy enough to shade the ground and reduce the losses from excessive evaporation. When plants are crowded, very little, if any, stooling occurs, and the plant is unable to adapt itself to its immediate conditions.

As a general rule the rate of planting for dry lands is just a trifle more than half of what would be used on irrigated lands.

DISK HARROW IS IMPORTANT

Nothing Will Conserve More Moisture Than by Using it on Stubble—Also Used as a Cultivator.

The disk harrow may be considered as the most important implement for grain farming in a dry climate. Nothing will conserve more moisture by using it on stubble after harvest and before plowing time. It may be used as a cultivator for summer fallowing. On ground where small grains are to follow such crops as beets or potatoes the use of this implement will often make plowing necessary.

The 16-inch disk is of proper size for ordinary farm work. This disk pulls somewhat heavier than the larger sizes, but pulverizes enough better to justify its use. The 16-inch disk penetrates the soil deeper than the larger one, because it has less bearing-up surface; it revolves faster, thus pulverizing the soil better.

For handiness and ease of operation, each gang of the disk should be controlled by an individual lever. All bearings must be well protected from dust and dirt, so constructed as to be easily oiled. Each disk should be provided with a satisfactory foot-lever cleaner. For thickening a thin stand of alfalfa in the early springtime or after a cutting, the disk is set almost straight, in which condition it is run over the field twice, just as the alfalfa is beginning to grow in the spring.

DAIRYING AND DRY FARMING

Cow is One of Most Economic Animals for Transforming Field Crops into Human Food.

Dairying should have a place in dry-land farming, because the dairy cow is one of the most economic animals for transforming field crops into human foods. The ultimate object of all live stock and farm labor is to produce food for the masses of humanity from the field crops. The different farm animals will produce from 100 pounds of dry matter in the form of field crops about the following:

The sheep from 100 pounds of dry matter will recover about 2.5 pounds of edible dry matter for human food. The steer from 100 pounds of dry matter will recover about 2.7 pounds of edible dry matter for human food. The hog from 100 pounds of dry matter will recover about 1.6 pounds of edible dry matter for human food. The dairy cow from 100 pounds of dry matter will recover about 1.8 pounds of edible dry matter for human food.

This table, deducted from the best experimental data, shows that the dairy cow recovers in her produce the largest per cent of the dry matter in field crops for human food, and the hog ranks second.

PRINCIPAL DRY FARM CROP

In Case Corn Fails to Mature It Can Be Cut Up and Put in Silo for Use of Dairy Herd.

Corn is one of the principal crops of the dry farmer, and if for some reason there is a failure of crop maturity, the stalk can be cut up and used for silage and thereby provide an abundance of the very best of feed for the dairy herd.

The silo is one of the best possible conservers of feed. By the use of silage, every bit of the corn can be utilized. About 40 per cent of the nutrients in corn are in the stalk, and without the silo most of this goes to waste.

The silo also enables the dry farmer to do winter dairying most successfully. The dairy cow needs a succulent feed during the winter months. Silage can also be stored and fed during the summer months when there is a shortage of pasture.

Sport Coat With Convertible Collar



The day of the high class and brilliant sweater and the snappy sport coat is with us. Racing meets and other assemblages of people who are in a position to make the styles into fashions reveal the bright-hued sweater and sport coat, worn with more than complacency, especially by the younger people. Over thin white dresses and with white sport hats and white footwear there is a crispness and fitness to the occasion in such apparel that makes an instant appeal to the younger set.

New conditions bring about new costumes for occasions where formerly only strictly dressy toilettes were in vogue. The sweater and the sport coat are at home in the automobile, and the only kind of millinery that will withstand the speed of the open car is that designed for it, hence the sport hat and the auto bonnet.

But the brilliance of color in these comfortable outer garments makes as gay an assemblage as ever gathered in glad raiment in days gone by. Cerise and gold, lacquer red and royal blue, mustard and amethyst, and most vivid and "classy" of greens, and the sparkle of black and white combinations give one a wide choice whether the taste is quiet or gay.

The Worumbo sport coat shown here is in black and white, cut on easy and rather vague lines. It is drawn in a little by a wide belt of the fabric at the normal waist line. White silk braid is used for binding the collar and cuffs. Two large and very practical pockets add definitely to the character of the coat. The convertible collar may be turned up about the throat and buttoned to place.

The hat, of white corduroy velvet, is trimmed with a band and cockade of white ribbon. White gloves and shoes, either of kid or canvas, are in keeping with the rest of the toilette and complete a midsummer garb that is a thing of beauty and a joy for all outings.

Skirt Trimmings. Skirts now have quaint trimmings on their edges. Quillings of the material or a binding formed of a bias fold of the material often takes the place of a plain hem.

Lingerie Hat of Cotton Embroidery



The lingerie hat is made of fine, sheer, cotton embroidery, lace or net, and forms a special kind of midsummer millinery which reappears each year. The same kinds of embroideries and laces that are used for making lingerie gowns or fine underwear are used in the construction of this very elegant millinery; hence the name by which it is designated.

The lingerie hat has been in greatest demand among those who require several hats for each season, and is one of those types made for the "exclusive trade"—that is, for those who can afford to indulge a taste for special millinery to suit special seasons. They are by no means inexpensive; but it is the work required to make them, rather than the materials used, that makes them bring very good prices.

Two lingerie hats shown in the picture given here are of the picturesque type. At the left a wide embroidery of sheer batiste is shirred over a frame smoothly covered with chiffon. The row of shirring (over a small cord) at the base of the crown forms a frill wider than the brim of the frame, which falls prettily beyond the brim edge and drops more at the back than elsewhere. Here, from under the brim, loops and long ends of narrow ribbon, in a light color, hang nearly to the waist line.

But the striking feature in this hat lies in the trimming. Two poppies, made of the embroidery with millinery stamens at the center, are posed exactly on top. This is an audacious position, but warranted because of the excellence and beauty of the flowers. One cannot get in the picture the sheerness of the embroidery which makes the blossoms look like delicate ghosts of the flaming flower type.

The second hat, of the small poke bonnet type, is made of allover embroidery and narrow val lace. The frame is covered with blue crepe, and this forms a facing. The upper brim and crown are of the embroidery in an open pattern. A frill of narrow val lace finishes the edge, and there is a collar and hanging ends of black velvet ribbon. Little clusters of pink June roses and blue forget-me-nots are set about the base of the crown. Nothing could be prettier, worn with the midsummer frocks made of sheer white cottons, or those that are gayly figured.

JULIA BOTTOMLEY.
Leather Trimming. Soft suede leather is much used for military collars and deep rollback cuffs. The pointed corners of these military collars are embroidered in metallic thread and black or white silk.

THE GROWTH OF WESTERN CANADA

Increase in Railway Mileage, School Attendance and Population.

Some idea of the extent of railway construction in Western Canada can be derived from the fact that the railway mileage in the Province of Alberta has been doubled in three years. The present mileage is 4,097. In all of the settled districts there is ample railway privileges. The rates are governed by a Dominion Railway Commission, and in the exercise of their powers they not only control the rates, giving fair equality to both railway and shipper, but form a court to hear complaints of any who may desire to lodge the same.

In the matter of education no better instance of the advancement that is taking place can be given than that found in the information to hand that attendance at the University of Alberta has increased 1,000 per cent in five years, and is now thoroughly representative of all settled portions of the Province. The students in attendance are from sixty-one distinct districts.

Then as to the prosperity which follows residence in Western Canada, J. E. Edward of Blackie, Alta., gives splendid testimony. He writes, "In the spring of 1907 I first came to this locality from the State of Iowa, Cass County, and located on a quarter section of land near Blackie. Since coming here I have been engaged in mixed farming, which I have found to be more profitable than where I formerly lived. On coming here my worldly holdings were small besides having a family to care for. I now own three quarter sections, sixty head of cattle, twenty head of horses and forty head of hogs, without encumbrance.

"During the seven years I have not had a crop fail. My best crop of oats averaged ninety bushels per acre, with a general yield of thirty-five bushels and upward. My best wheat crop averaged forty-three bushels per acre. When I have had smaller yields per acre I have found that it has been due to improper cultivation. The winters here, although at times the weather is cold, I find as a whole are very agreeable. The summers are warm, but not sultry. The summer nights are cool and one is always assured of a good night's rest. My health has been much better, as I do not suffer from catarrh since coming here. I have no land for sale, and am not wishing to make any change, but would be pleased to answer any enquiries concerning this locality."—A6 vertisement.

When a woman plans to do anything out of the beaten path she always wonders what the neighbors will say about it.

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